

H.A

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/789,021

Applicant(s)

SHIH ET AL.

Examiner

Huan H. Tran

Art Unit

2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02/26/2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 02/26/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Huan Tran
Primary Examiner
AU 2861

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

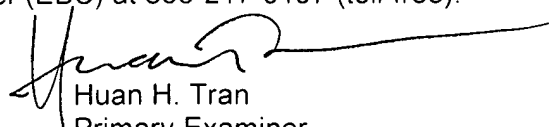
Page 1, line 6, delete " [our Docket No. 87328] " and insert in its place – 10/776,746 --.

Page 4, line 4, delete " [our Docket No. 87328] " and insert in its place – 10/776,746 --.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huan H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2261. The examiner can normally be reached on at work on W-F from 6:30 to 5; T are telework days.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Talbott can be reached on (571) 272-1934. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Huan H. Tran
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2861

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-19 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1 and dependent claims thereof, prior art of record do not teach or suggest at least the claimed limitations "a crease-preventing platen roller movable to adjacent said print head for supporting both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas partially wrapped longitudinally about said platen roller, so that respective wrap angles are formed for the dye receiver and for the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to said platen roller, and being configured to urge the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread in opposition to crease formation during dye transfer from the dye transfer area to the dye receiver; and a wrap angle regulator movable for increasing at least the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to said crease-preventing platen roller, whereby said platen roller can urge more of the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread".

As to claim 11 and dependent claims thereof, prior art do not teach or suggest the limitations "a crease-preventing platen roller movable to adjacent said print head for supporting both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas partially wrapped longitudinally about said platen roller, so that respective wrap angles are formed for the dye receiver and for the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to said platen roller, and being configured to urge the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread in opposition to crease formation during dye transfer from the dye transfer area to the dye receiver; a sensor and control device for sensing temperature and/or longitudinal tension widthwise with respect to the dye transfer area and two edge areas at said print head to determine whether the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to said crease-preventing platen

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roller should be increased in order for said platen roller to urge more of the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread; and a wrap angle regulator movable to increase the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to said crease-preventing platen roller in accordance with said sensor and control device determining that the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas should be increased.”

Claim 14 and dependent claims thereof are allowable at least for the inclusion of the limitations “supporting both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas on a crease-preventing platen roller that can urge the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread in opposition to crease formation during dye transfer from the dye transfer area to the dye receiver, and with both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas partially wrapped longitudinally about the crease-preventing platen roller to create respective wrap angles for the dye receiver and for the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to the platen roller; and increasing at least the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to the crease-preventing platen roller, whereby the platen roller can urge more of the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread.”

Claim 15 and dependent claims thereof are allowable at least for the inclusion of the limitations “supporting both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas on a crease-preventing platen roller that can urge the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread in opposition to crease formation during dye transfer from the dye transfer area to the dye receiver, and with both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas partially wrapped longitudinally about the crease-preventing platen roller to create respective wrap angles for the dye receiver and for the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to the platen roller; sensing at least one variable that can cause longitudinal stretching of the dye transfer area relative to the two edge areas, and determining whether the wrap angle of the dye

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transfer area and two edge areas relative to the crease- preventing platen roller should be increased in order for the platen roller to urge more of the dye transfer area and two edge areas to spread', and increasing at least the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to the crease-preventing platen roller when it is determined that the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas should be increased."

Claims 17 and dependent claims thereof are allowable at least for the inclusion of the limitations "a crease-preventing platen roller movable to adjacent said print head for supporting both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas partially wrapped longitudinally about said platen roller, so that respective wrap angles are formed for the dye receiver and for the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to said platen roller, and being configured to apply mechanical friction to the two edge areas that is sufficient to cause the two edge areas to be longitudinally stretched substantially the same as the dye transfer area during dye transfer from the dye transfer area to the dye receiver, so that crease formation is prevented', and a wrap angle regulator movable for increasing at least the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to said crease-preventing platen roller, whereby said platen roller can apply friction to more of the two edge areas."

Claim 19 is allowable for the inclusion of the limitations "supporting both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas on a crease-preventing platen roller that can apply mechanical action to the two edge areas that is sufficient to cause the two edge areas to be longitudinally stretched substantially the same as the dye transfer area during dye transfer from the dye transfer area to the dye receiver, so that crease formation is prevented, and with both the dye receiver and the dye transfer area and two edge areas partially wrapped longitudinally about the crease-preventing platen roller to create respective wrap angles for the dye receiver and for the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to the platen roller; and

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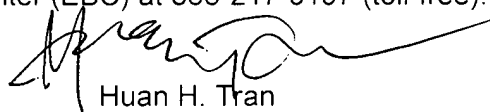
increasing at least the wrap angle of the dye transfer area and two edge areas relative to the crease-preventing platen roller, whereby the platen roller can apply action to more of the two edge areas."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huan H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2261. The examiner can normally be reached on at work on W-F from 6:30 to 5; T are telework days.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Talbott can be reached on (571) 272-1934. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Huan H. Tran
Primary Examiner
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